

Message Text

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63

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 SR-02 ORM-03 AGR-20 SWF-02 DRC-01 /155 W

----- 026404

R 241150Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5436

INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMCONSUL BUKUVU

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY ROME

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GENEVA FOR REFUGEE AFFAIRS SECTION

ROME FOR FAO OFFICE

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SREF, BY, TZ, FAO

SUBJ: BURUNDI REFUGEES IN TANZANIA

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 881

1. SUMMARY: BEST CURRENT FIGURES INDICATE THERE ARE UPWARDS 90,000 BURUNDI REFUGEES IN TANZANIA. ONLY TINY TRICKLE NOW ENTERING COUNTRY. MAJOR PROBLEM IS OBTAINING SUFFICIENT FOOD TO HANDLE RECENT INFLUX OF REFUGEES IN SETTLEMENTS WHO PREVIOUSLY LOVED WITH FRIENDS AND RELATIVES IN KIGOMA REGION. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING DISCUSSIONS WITH UNHCR, TANGANYIKA CHRISTIAN REFUGEE SERVICE (TCRS), AND TANGOV OFFICIALS, VISITING S/R OFFICER GEMPLE COLE AND EMBOFF WERE PROVIDED WITH UPDATE ON BURUNDI REFUGEE
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SITUATION. ULYANKULU SETTLEMENT OUTSIDE TABORA CONTAINS

36-37,000 REFUGEES (CURRENT BUDGET ALLOWS FOR 30,000). KATUMBA SETTLEMENT NEAR MPANDA CONTAINS 42,000 REFUGEES (CURRENT BUDGET ALLOWS FOR 30,000). GENERALLY AGREED THAT BETWEEN 10-15,000 BURUNDI REFUGEES REMAIN OUTSIDE SETTLEMENTS IN KIGOMA REGION. INCLUDING SEVERAL OTHER SMALL POCKETS OF BURUNDI REFUGEES, TOTAL NUMBER IN TANZANIA IS ESTIMATED AT UPWARDS OF 90,000 OR SLIGHTLY LESS THAN ESTIMATE CONTAINED REFTEL.

3. UNHCR IN COOPERATION WITH TANGOV AND TCRS IS REQUESTING BUDGETARY SUPPORT APPROVAL FOR 45,000 REFUGEES AT BOTH ULYANKULU AND KATUMBA. FOR TIME BEING, AT LEAST, PROPOSAL FOR CREATING THIRD SETTLEMENT HAS BEEN DROPPED. REPS OF WORLD FOOD PROGRAM ARE CURRENTLY HOLDING TALKS IN DAR ES SALAAM CONCERNING NEED FOR ADDITIONAL FOOD SUPPLIES. FOR MOMENT, BOTH ULYANKULU AND KATUMBA HAVE ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF FOOD ALTHOUGH KATUMBA EXPERIENCED SERIOUS SHORTAGES DURING PAST SEVERAL MONTHS DUE TO LARGE INFLUX OF REFUGEES REPORTED REFTEL. RAINS FINALLY ARRIVED AT ULYANKULU, THUS ALLEVIATING PREVIOUS DROUGHT SITUATION.

4. THERE IS COMPLETE AGREEMENT THAT ONLY TINY TRICKLE OF REFUGEES ARE CURRENTLY COMING OUT OF BURUNDI INTO TANZANIA. MIN. HOME AFFAIRS OFFICIAL SAID TODAY'S REPORT FROM KIGOMA INDICATED SIX HAD ENTERED TANZANIA PREVIOUS DAY. OF REMAINING 10-15,000 REFUGEES IN KIGOMA REGION, VERY FEW ARE PRESENTLY MOVING INTO SETTLEMENTS. THIS DUE TO HEAVY RAINS IN AREA AND INABILITY TO TRAVEL ON BAD ROADS. UNHCR AND TCRS BELIEVE MOST OF REMAINING REFUGEES IN KIGOMA REGION WILL MOVE INTO SETTLEMENTS BY AUGUST, WHEN RAINS HAVE STOPPED. IN TALKS WITH TANGOV OFFICIALS IT APPARENT BURUNDI REFUGEE PROBLEM REMAINS SIGNIFICANT IRRITANT IN TANZANIA-BURUNDI RELATIONS. THERE IS RESIGNED RESENTMENT THAT TANZANIA HAS TO PICK UP PIECES OF SITUATION WHICH ORIGINATED ACROSS BORDER.

5. COMMENT: EXCEPT FOR MOVEMENTS INSIDE TANZANIA, BURUNDI REFUGEE SITUATION HAS BEEN STABLE SINCE BEGINNING OF YEAR. MAJOR PROBLEM IS PROVISION OF FOOD FOR LARGE NUMBERS OF REFUGEES WHO MOVED INTO SETTLEMENTS FROM KIGOMA REGION IN RECENT MONTHS. ONCE THIS PROBLEM SETTLED AND BARING UNFORESEEN INFLUX OF NEW REFUGEES FROM BURUNDI, REFUGEE OFFICIALS CAN CONCENTRATE ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LESS PRESSING NEEDS IN SETTLEMENTS SUCH AS EXPANDING EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, SUPPLIES, FOREIGN RELATIONS, BORDER INCIDENTS, VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, FOODS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974DARES01665
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740131-0367
From: DAR ES SALAAM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740521/aaaaarvl.tel
Line Count: 110
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: DAR ES SALAAM 881
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 MAY 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <04 MAR 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BURUNDI REFUGEES IN TANZANIA
TAGS: PFOR, SREF, BY, TZ, FAO, TCRS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005